

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02141 071741Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-08 FPC-01 SCEM-02

EPA-04 CEQ-02 TAR-02 DRC-01 EURE-00 /176 W

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P 071716Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1681

INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL TORONTO

UNCLAS OTTAWA 2141

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA, US

SUBJECT: NEW CANADIAN OIL POLICY - PRESS COMMENTARY

REF: OTTAWA 2126

1. SEPTEMBER 7 MONTREAL GAZETTE ARTICLES ON NEW OIL POLICY NOTE NEGLECT OF OTTAWA IN ADVANCE CONSULTATION WITH QUEBEC, AS WELL AS ALBERTA, AND INCOMPATIBILITY OF POLICY WITH PRIOR ENRGY STUDY. ONE ARTICLE STATES THAT ENERGY MINISTER MACDONALD "IN AN EXTREMELY EMBARRASSING POSITION, SINCE HE HAS CONSISTENTLY ARGUED AGAINST THE NEED FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE PIPELINE TO MONTREAL." GAZETTE OTTAWA REPORTER ALSO CLAIMS THAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED NOTHING IN WAY OF PROTEXT FROM QUEBEC GOVERNMENT.

2. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL (SEPTEMBER 7) EDITORIALY SUPPORTS "GREATER PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT" IN OIL INDUSTRY  
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02141 071741Z

AND STATES THAT NATIONAL SECURITY OF PETROLEUM SUPPLIES

CAN ONLY BE SERVED BY A NATIONAL CAPABILITY TO PRODUCE AND DELIVER THEM. CONTINUING, THE EDITORIAL BELIEVES COMPENSATIONS NEED BE MADE TO ALBERTA AND SUGGESTS NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD APPROVE NEW PIPELINES THAT WOULD ENABLE ALBERTA TO HAVE BIG ETHANE EXTRACTION PLANT AND WORLD-SCALE ETHYLENE PLANT -- ESSENTIAL BASIS OF A SOPHISTICATED PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY.

3. ONTARIO'S ENERGY MINISTER MCKEOUGH AT SEPTEMBER 6 PRESS CONFERENCE IS REPORTED IN OTTAWA PRESS TO HAVE SAID THAT, WHILE NEW OIL POLICY IS STEP TOWARDS NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY, MOVE MAY HAVE REPERCUSSIONS IN OTHER TRADE AREAS, I.E., U.S. COULD PRESSURE CANADA THROUGH AUTO PACT AND DISC.

4. AN OVERALL PRESS THEME IS THAT NEW GOC OIL POLICY IS RATHER SLAP-DASH WITH A GREAT DEAL OF FEVERISH IMPROVISATION.  
SCHMIDT

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <08 MAR 2002 by cunninfx>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, CA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005